

THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1899.

ALGER DOWN AND OUT

The War Secretary Suddenly Tenders His Resignation.

MEIKLEJOHN TO ACT TEMPORARILY

No Immediate Appointment Expected. Alger's Letter to Be Made Public With the President's Acceptance—Michigan Visit an Alleged Cause of Estrangement.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Late yesterday Secretary Alger tendered to the president his resignation of the war portfolio to become effective Aug. 1, though it was tendered "at the pleasure of the president." The president will accept it.

Gossip has begun already as to his successor, but is entirely speculative, for notwithstanding the reports that Mr. Alger would not long continue at the head of the war department, his actual resignation came suddenly and unexpectedly.

Formal acceptance of the resignation will be made in a letter to be written by the president within the next day or two. No official statement as to the cause of the resignation was procurable either from the president or from Secretary Alger, neither of whom would talk on the subject, nor was the letter of resignation obtainable.

For the present nothing will be made public concerning the severance of the relations of the president and his war minister, but latter on the official correspondence closing the latter's career as chief of the war department will doubtless be given to the press.

The belief had prevailed in Washington for some time that Secretary Alger would resign from the cabinet, but the date generally set for it was toward the end of the year, after he had submitted his annual report, in which he intended to sum up what had been accomplished during his brief but eventful direction of the war department. His tender then had been regarded as almost a foregone conclusion, in view of Mr. Alger's announcement about a month ago that he had concluded to enter into competition for the vacancy in the United States senate to be caused by the expiration of the term of Senator McMillan, a strong supporter of the administration, and that he had enlisted in his active support Governor Pingree, to whom had been attributed free criticisms of the policy that was supposed to be cherished by the president toward the Filipinos.

Strained Relations Hinted At. There have been many explanations and denials of the facts in that case, but in the end the impression was conveyed that the result of the Michigan visit of the secretary had been to change the relations between the president and himself to such a degree as to make the restoration of their former status impossible and to render the connection of the two as part of the same official family impossible.

At one time since then has there been ground for the belief that a rupture might be avoided, but this belief ceased to be held when the news spread that Vice President Hobart and Secretary Alger were in conference at Normanhurst. It was largely at least as a result of this conference that Secretary Alger decided to leave the cabinet at this time.

At the conference there were present besides Secretary Alger, his military aide and close personal and political friend and adviser, Major Hopkins, and perhaps some other persons or person who also felt a deep interest in the future of the secretary. There has been no disclosure of what passed by the seaside, but it is significant that the return of the secretary to Washington was followed by prompt action.

He arrived in Washington Tuesday night, too late to make any official calls. Almost before the executive departments were opened for business Wednesday he called at the white house, and visiting the president in his office, announced that he had concluded to resign his office. What passed on that point between himself and the president is only a matter of surmise, for neither have anything to say on this point. Some routine business pertaining to the war department was disposed of, and then Mr. Alger went to his office, where he wrote out his formal letter of resignation and personally carried it over to the White House. His call on this occasion was brief and when he returned to the war department he closed the door of his office to most of the many callers who were in waiting and had a long conference with Adjutant General Corbin.

To the newspaper men who sought to secure some expression from him the secretary was courteous but firm. At his residence in the evening the secretary was equally uncommunicative and positively declined to assign any reason for the action he had taken.

Meiklejohn to Take Charge. His plans for the future have already been defined. Mr. Meiklejohn, the assistant secretary of war, is at present supposed to be in Wisconsin. He has been notified of what has happened and is expected to return to Washington to assume charge of the war department, until such time as the president may name a permanent secretary. Probably that will be by the end of the present month.

Secretary Alger is much wearied by the weight of responsibility he has borne for nearly two years and a half and has aged many years in the opinion of his personal friends and is in need of rest. He proposes to depart for the northwest and spend some time in the

lumber camps belonging to him, and then to pay visits to his children. Those will occupy his time until well along into next fall. About political matters the secretary does not speak now, but it may be fairly surmised that he will be ready to take such part in the Michigan senatorial contest as conditions at the time will warrant.

The closest inquiry fails to elicit any details as to the intentions of the president respecting the appointment of a successor. The members of the cabinet were all disinclined to talk about the succession, though one did remark that the president had made no mention of a name to him, and he believed that no decision had yet been reached. He also conveyed the impression that no appointment would be made immediately, but that Mr. Meiklejohn would be allowed to direct affairs for some time to come.

Among the names which have been mentioned from time to time are those of General Horace Porter of New York, now ambassador to France, Governor Roosevelt of New York, General Harrison Gray Otis and Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn. The name of General Corbin has been mentioned in connection with an ad interim appointment, pending the selection of a permanent occupant of the office. This gossip also included questions of locality and the opinion was expressed in some well posted quarters that the selection would be made from the west. All this, however, is mere speculation and it seems probable from the fact the president has not yet had time to canvass the situation and make a selection.

At the White House there was no evidence throughout the evening that any unusual event had occurred. The president went for a drive with his niece, Miss Duncan, late in the afternoon, handling the reins himself. About 9 o'clock Secretary Hay, accompanied by Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, came over for a talk on the subject. Secretary Hitchcock and Comptroller Daves called socially for a few minutes. There was no evidence of a cabinet conference and no suggestion of any progress in that line.

History of Cabinet Changes. Secretary Alger's departure from the cabinet will leave in it only three of those members who entered it at the beginning of the administration, namely, Messrs. Gage, Long and Wilson. The number of changes that have occurred in the two and a half years of its life has been very unusual. Six cabinet officers in all have resigned their portfolios, either to retire to private life or to accept other positions of honor and trust at the hands of the president. These include Secretaries of State Sherman, who went out because of ill health and advanced age, and Day, who accepted a United States judgeship; Attorney General McKenna, who accepted a position on the supreme court bench of the United States; Postmaster General Gary, who retired because of ill health, and Secretary Bliss of the interior department, who returned to New York and resumed active connection with business affairs.

EPWORTH LEAGUERS MEET. Fourth Biennial Convention Begins at Indianapolis This Afternoon.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 20.—All preparations have been completed, the tent raised and the city decorated and everything is in readiness for the opening session this afternoon of the fourth biennial international convention of the Epworth league of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Canadian Methodist church.

Owing to objections raised against the proposition to erect the Epworth tent on the state house lawn, the court house lawn was brought into service and the mammoth tent raised. Across the street from the tent is located Tomlinson hall and the opening session of the league will be held in the tent and Tomlinson hall simultaneously. Friday the league meetings will be extended to the English opera house, and thereafter sessions will be conducted in the three places at the same time.

Delegates began thronging the city about noon yesterday. The estimates of the various officials place the number of delegates at from 12,000 to 15,000. There will be at least 500 colored delegates from southern states. Probably the only business that will come up will be the selection of the place of meeting in 1901. Los Angeles and San Francisco are both in the race.

Five packages of literature against the seating of Congressman Roberts have arrived, directed to Rev. T. C. Cliff of Salt Lake, who will attempt a movement among the Epworths against the Mormon congressman. Senator Fairbanks, who was to have delivered the address of welcome in Tomlinson hall, is in Washington.

HIT BY A TRAMP'S BULLET. Watchman Benjamin Stump Probably Murdered at Falls City by a Vagrant.

FALLS CITY, Neb., July 20.—Yesterday morning about 2 o'clock as Policeman Ben Stump was making his rounds of the Missouri Pacific yards, he approached a boxcar and flashed his light and a man inside, supposed to be a tramp, fired at him, the bullet entering at the top of Stump's forehead and ranging downward. The tramp made his escape, but bloodhounds from Beatrice will be put on his track. The wounded officer is in a serious condition.

Bids on a Court House. JUNCTION CITY, Kan., July 20.—The county commissioners opened bids this afternoon for the proposed new \$35,000 court house and jail. Zeigler & Dalton of Junction City, were the lowest bidders at \$24,950.

NEW YORK FOR BRYAN

Her Chicago Delegation Declares This in a Manifesto.

LOYALTY OF TAMMANY IMPEACHED.

National Democratic Committee in Session in Chicago With Altgeld as a Proxy Member—Local Differences of New York and Chicago May Be Ignored.

CHICAGO, July 20.—Representatives of the Chicago platform Democrats of the state of New York last night issued an address "to the members of the Democratic national committee and to the voters of the United States" concerning the situation in the state of New York. It was asserted in the address that an overwhelming majority of the voters in the Democratic party in the state of New York are enthusiastically in favor of the principles laid down in the Chicago platform of 1896 and demand the nomination of the man who most thoroughly stands for those principles.

It was declared that the small group of men who have seized upon the machinery of the Democratic party in the state of New York are absolutely opposed, openly or covertly to all that the Chicago platform stands for and the nomination of any man holding those principles. The electoral machinery in the state of New York, it was also stated, was such that any attempt to oust the men now in control of the Tammany organization by work within that body would be fruitless. The address concluded with an impeachment of Tammany's loyalty.

Acting Chairman William J. Stone of Missouri will call the Democratic national committee to order today in the Sherman House. William Jennings Bryan will probably sit as a committee-man, arrangements having been made to furnish him with a proxy. John P. Altgeld holds the proxy of William H. White of Washington. His presence in the committee may cause trouble, for it is believed that Thomas Gahan, member of the committee from Illinois, may question Mr. Altgeld's right to represent a Democratic committeeman.

Apparently, Mr. Altgeld is desirous of avoiding trouble. If any of the members resent his presence, he will telegraph Mr. White, suggesting some other proxy be named, then if Mr. White insists that he represent him, he will do so. If Acting Chairman Stone's wishes are carried out and apparently most of the committeemen are with him, the factional differences local to Chicago and New York will not be brought before the committee in any form.

According to the plan of action given out there will be two subsidiary committees named—the financial committee, which will take the place of the committee on ways and means, and the executive committee, which in addition to its other duties, will take charge of the press bureau. It is predicted that if a subcommittee of the finance committee is named to do the work which has been done by the ways and means committee, Urey Woodson of Kentucky and Judge Johnson of Kansas, will be two of its members, and Samuel Book of Missouri will be made superintendent.

It is intimated the resignations of Senators Teller and Allen and ex-Governor Stone as members of the auxiliary or ways and means committee will be handed in. Senator Jones' absence in Europe will leave Mr. Altgeld the only remaining member of this committee, and an attempt may be made to force him out and reorganize the committee with only Democrats as members, leaving out the Populists and Silver Republicans.

It is expected Mr. Bryan will arrive in Chicago today and will then announce whether or not he will speak at the Auditorium meeting tonight.

DEWEY INSTEAD OF BRYAN.

W. C. Whitney Hopes to Make the Admiral a Candidate.

CHICAGO, July 20.—Oliver H. P. Belmont of New York was asked last night if William C. Whitney's sudden departure for Europe was in the nature of a mission. He said he understood Mr. Whitney meant to see Admiral Dewey and persuade the seaman to let his name be presented to the national convention as a candidate for the nomination.

"Not that I believe Mr. Whitney will succeed in his object," continued Mr. Belmont. "I do not think the admiral would consent to become a candidate."

"Do you think Mr. Belmont, that if the admiral were brought to consent, he could beat Mr. Bryan in the convention? Could he stampede the convention?"

"Candidly," replied Mr. Belmont, "I don't think he could. Mr. Bryan, so far as I can fathom, seems the well nigh unanimous choice of the whole party. Assuredly, he is the natural and logical candidate and today, at least, he is invincible."

Made Insane by a Dream. SEDALIA, Mo., July 20.—Mrs. John Williams has become mentally deranged and is in a critical condition as a result of a dream that she saw her husband's train wrecked and himself ground to pieces. Mrs. Williams and her husband, who is a brakeman, are both believers in Christian Science, and she is being treated by the absent method.

To Test the Beer Law. JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., July 20.—E. C. Kehr, a prominent St. Louis attorney, is tracing the passage of the beer inspection bill through the two houses for the St. Louis Brewers' association preliminary to a test of the law.

PLAGUE STEAMER IN PORT.

The America Maru, Mail and Passengers Quarantined at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 20.—The steamer America Maru, from Hong Kong and Yokohama, anchored in the stream, has been ordered into quarantine. Passengers will not be released until tomorrow at the earliest. No mail matter has yet been landed.

The steamer on entering port did not fly the yellow flag and it is understood that she was sent to the quarantine station chiefly because she had been placed in quarantine at Nagasaki, by the Japanese officials, a suspicious death, attributed to the bubonic plague, having occurred on the voyage from Hong Kong.

THE SHAMROCK AGROUND.

An Accident Befalls the Challenger—Disappointment at Her Performance.

PORTSMOUTH, Eng., July 20.—The Shamrock grounded on Sandy Bottom yesterday, but was not hurt. She will probably be examined by divers today before starting for Belfast.

LONDON, July 20.—The morning papers express regret at the abortive ending of yesterday's trial race between the Shamrock and Britannia, which, they concur, again proved the Shamrock much faster than the Britannia to windward, but only a trifle better before the wind.

Birkheimer an Iowa Veteran.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Colonel William C. Birkheimer, assigned to the new Twenty-eighth regiment at Camp Meade, Pa., was born in Ohio and served as a private in company M of the Fourth Iowa cavalry, from March, 1864, to August, 1865. He entered West Point a year later and after graduation in 1870 served with the Third artillery on eastern and southern stations. He was also instructor at West Point. He has been with his regiment in the Philippines since June, 1898, and was especially recommended for promotion by Major General Lawton for gallantry.

Iowa's Crop Summary.

DES MOINES, July 20.—Crop conditions in Iowa are summarized as follows: A good deal of hay has been injured by frequent rains and lack of sunshine. In the drier districts fair progress has been made in haying and harvesting rye, early sown oats and barley. With favorable conditions harvesting spring grain crops will be general within ten days. Corn has made very good progress. Prospects for this crop as a whole are steadily improving. Oats and other small grain crops are standing up fairly well under adverse conditions.

Kissing Bug at Omaha.

OMAHA, July 20.—The dread "kissing bug" has made its appearance in Omaha. Three cases of people suffering from the insect's venomous sting have been reported. The bug corresponds exactly with the description given in the Philadelphia Medical News. It was an inch in length, dark brownish red color, with long antennae or "whiskers" and has six legs. Its generic name is "opiscus" and it is said to be a parasite species of bedbug.

Kansas City Lockout Still Unchanged.

KANSAS CITY, July 20.—Very little if any change has taken place in the situation at the lockout of the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger packing house. The company's officials assert that additional signatures to their agreement have been secured since yesterday. There is no immediate prospect of a reopening, however. All of the employees were paid off during the day.

Swept Away by a Cloudburst.

TEKAMAH, Neb., July 20.—In northwestern Iowa, near the Minnesota line, on Monday night, A. W. Blades, his wife and eight children were drowned while enroute to Minnesota in an emigrant wagon. The family was encamped on a creek, when a cloudburst raised the creek 15 feet, and the family, team and wagon were swept away.

A National Christian Ticket.

DES MOINES, July 20.—A call has been issued by W. R. Wenkert of Davenport, Ia., for a national convention of the United Christian party to be held at Chicago, Dec. 24, 1899, and to remain in session a week, when on Jan. 1, 1900, it is proposed to nominate a national ticket for which all "God fearing men and women" can vote.

Burned to Death by Gasoline.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, July 20.—Mrs. Henry Austin, who, with her husband and two children, have been living in a covered wagon, a few miles east of this city, was fatally burned yesterday while attempting to pour gasoline into the tank of a stove while it was lighted.

Shot Dead by Her Sister.

GREENVILLE, Mo., July 20.—Miss Anna Weston was accidentally shot to death by her sister, Tuba Weston, while out driving with Sam Bone, a farm hand. Bone permitted the young women to amuse themselves with his revolver.

Many Ballots for Senator.

EMMETTSBURG, Ia., July 20.—Over 2,000 ballots have been taken without result in the Republican senatorial convention. The contest for Senator Gear's seat is the overshadowing feature.

A NIGHT OF RIOTING.

New York's Trolley Strike Is Assuming Serious Phases.

SCORES OF PERSONS ARE INJURED.

A Howling Mob Fills Second Avenue and There Are Many Fierce Struggles With the Police—Strike Growing on Both Sides of the River.

NEW YORK, July 20.—The New York trolley men have joined the Brooklyn strikers in their big strike. The center of operations in New York city is on Second avenue; the excitement in Brooklyn is centered in the vicinity of Thirty-sixth street and Fifth avenue, where early yesterday morning dynamite was used in an attempt to blow down the elevated structure.

The rioting that took place in New York yesterday afternoon and last night was of a serious nature, infinitely fiercer than any that has taken place yet in the borough across the river. Scores of people were injured and severely injured in the Second avenue district.

Last night that great thoroughfare was crowded with a jeering, howling mob almost its entire length. The great trolleys gave forth their workmen in many a fierce struggle with the police, and with the men were many women and still greater numbers of children. They stoned every car that passed over the tracks; they hurled stones and chunks of iron and vegetables of a variety of nature from roofs and windows; they barricaded the streets with paving stones, tore up the street iron, choked up the slots with wire and spikes and blocked the thoroughfares. They had many a hand-to-hand conflict with the 600 patrolmen that had been placed along the line.

Of the injured the exact number cannot be known. Several policemen were removed to hospitals with broken bones and torn scalps. At least one striker or strike sympathizer had his skull fractured and a boy had his skull fractured. Innumerable passengers on the cars received bad wounds and it was impossible for passengers on Second avenue to go much above Fourteenth street.

It was hoped by the strikers to make a deep effect by their success on Second avenue, and so far as rioting was concerned they made it. On the other lines in New York the strike was not at any time prominent during the day. Last night, however, the motormen on the Eighth avenue line to the number of 100 or more organized and declared a strike. They thereupon set about to persuade their fellow workmen to leave their cars and with sufficient success to have cars running on only an hourly schedule before midnight. Today, they declare, the Eighth avenue will also be tied up. The officials of the Sixth avenue line made the statement last night that the cars on this avenue were moving about the same as ever.

An attempt was made at 1 o'clock this morning in Brooklyn to wreck a Park avenue car on its way to Manhattan. A cable similar to those used to stretch electric light and telephone wires was tied across the street from post to post and a foot above the pavement. The car struck it at full speed. The fender was bent under the car, throwing the front trucks off the rails, and the motorman, James Woodward of Philadelphia, was thrown over the dashboard to the pavement and bruised about the shoulders and head. There were no passengers on the car. Six policemen were aboard, but they escaped with a shaking up. Twenty-two strikers are under arrest for Wednesday's dynamite explosion.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

The reports of recruiting Wednesday shows 410 men were enrolled, making a total of 2,678.

All the field officers of the new volunteer regiments have been appointed and assigned.

The price of flour dropped 20 cents a barrel Wednesday and is now cheaper than for some time.

An effort is being made to enlarge the seamless steel tubing trust of the Shelby Tube company.

At a meeting of the striking ore handlers at Cleveland Wednesday the strike began at the Erie docks, was declared off.

Governor Bradley of Kentucky will not call a special session of the legislature nor send troops to the Clay county battle field.

Cleveland's (O.) city electrician has found two water connections eaten off and water mains badly damaged by electrolysis.

Captain Barker, commander of the Oregon, was a passenger on the steamer Empress of India which arrived at Victoria, B. C., Wednesday.

Senator Fairbanks, chairman of the joint high American-Canadian commission, is still confident of a resumption of the Alaskan boundary negotiations.

John Hyde, cotton expert for the United States commission to the Paris exposition, is sending out circulars requesting contributions for the proposed exhibit.

J. S. MORROW, DRIVE - WELLS.

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